

AMENDED CLAIMS

[received by the International Bureau on 19 may 2005 (19.05.05);
original claims 1-18 replaced by new claims 1-17 (3 pages)]

1. A package (10) for packaging coffee or tea particulate (12) for later transport is provided, the package including:
 - (a) a pouch (14) filled with the particulate; and
 - (b) a pressurizable container (16) constructed in a manner of an ordinary pressurizable beverage container, wherein the pouch is packaged inside the container, optionally in a CO₂ environment under pressures exceeding ambient pressure, and hermetically sealed therein.
2. The package (10) of claim 1, wherein the pressurizable container (16) is a two-piece container.
3. The package (10) of claim 1, wherein the pressurizable portion of the container (16) is essentially made up of two parts comprising a closed-ended cylindrical body sealingly closeable by a disk-shaped cap via a method of rolling edges of the parts together.
4. The package (10) of claim 2, wherein the two-piece container (16) is a can comprised of a first, cup-shaped portion (20) having an opening (21), and a second covering piece (22) having a shape corresponding to the opening for covering the opening, wherein the pouch (14) is packaged inside the cup-shaped portion, optionally in a CO₂ environment under pressures exceeding ambient pressure, and hermetically sealed therein by sealingly engaging the second covering piece with the opening of the cup-shaped portion.
5. The package (10) of one of claim 4, wherein the second covering piece (22) is disk-shaped and includes an opening tab (42) to facilitate opening of the container (16), thus

permitting access to the pouch (14).

6. The package (10) of claim 1, wherein the particulate (12) is sealed in the pouch (14).

7. The package (10) of claim 1, wherein the pouch (14) is made of filter material.

8. The package (10) of claim 7, wherein the filter material is selected from a group of materials consisting of porous paper, porous cellulosic, and porous woven material constructed so as to be sufficiently strong to withstand the stresses induced upon opening the package.

9. The package (10) of claim 1, wherein such package is formed so as to be efficiently packagable together with other such packages, in a system (56) including a sleeve (60), wherein at least two packages may be inserted inside the sleeve.

10. The package (10) of claim 9, wherein the package is stored within the sleeve (60) in a longitudinal orientation.

11. The package (10) of claim 9, wherein the sleeve (60) is transparent and semi-rigid.

12. The package (10) of claim 9, wherein the sleeve (60') comprises an inner and outer portion (70, 72), the portions telescoping so as to adjust the height and thus the package storage capacity of the sleeve.

13. The package (10) of claim 10, wherein at least one of the portions (70, 72) is transparent and cup shaped, having a closed end (76) and an open end (80), and measuring marks (82) interspersed along its length, so as to serve as a measuring beaker for liquid, such as water.

14. The package (10) of claim 10, wherein the sleeve (60') is made of a printable material.

15. A method (100) of packaging tea or coffee particulate (12), the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) filling a filter pouch (14) with particulate;
- (b) closing the pouch;
- (c) inserting the filled filter pouch (14) through an opening (21) into a first, cup-shaped portion (20) of a two-piece, pressurizable container (16); and
- (d) hermetically sealing the pouch inside the cup-shaped portion by sealing a second, covering portion (22) over the opening.

16. The method (100) of claim 16, wherein the sealing seals above-ambient pressure CO₂ gas into the container (16) prior to sealing of the container.

17. The method (100) of claim 17, wherein, prior to sealing, pellets (28) of dry ice are placed inside the container (16).